

DELTA PROTECTION COMMISSION

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September 11, 1998

To: Delta Protection Commission

From: Margit Aramburu, Executive Director

Subject: Status of Prop 204 Grants for Public Access and Recreation

Background

Proposition 204, passed by the voters in November 1996 included a two million dollar allotment for public access and recreation in the Delta to be administered by the Department of Parks and Recreation. The Department made half available in grants to local governments and non-profits, and half was designated for use by the Department.

Local Grants

Only two applications were submitted for the one millions dollars designated for local governments and non-profits. Each applicant received one-half of the funds.

1. **The Nature Conservancy** applied for funds for acquisition of McCormack Williamson Tract, a 1,650 acre island on the eastern edge of the Delta. The site is in the Delta Primary Zone (see attached maps) and is currently used for row crops. Additional funds from the Ecosystem Restoration portion of Prop 204 have also been awarded to The Nature Conservancy for acquisition of this parcel. The application states "fee acquisition of McCormack Williamson Tract in the east Delta for the purposes of providing habitat for delta fishes and providing recreational opportunities for motorized and non-motorized boating". The contract for the funds has been signed. Nature Conservancy has five years to expend the funds. The Nature Conservancy expects acquisition will be completed in 1998. The Nature Conservancy will be refining a management plan for the site and will develop a plan for public access as part of that planning process.

2. **The East Bay Regional Park District** applied for funds to “acquire 150 acres at the junction of Indian Slough and Main Canal to accommodate trail access to the Delta”. The project is called Old River Delta Access. The site is in the Secondary Zone of the Delta (see attached maps) and is currently used for grazing. The District proposes construction of a trail, a walk-in and boat-in park which will provide new opportunities for picnicking, walking, jogging, running, bird watching, possible future fishing pier and non-motorized boat launch facility, and turf areas for picnicking, ball games and other recreation. The District estimates the property will be open to the public for passive recreational use by Summer of 2000. A contract has been signed; the District has five years to expend the funds.

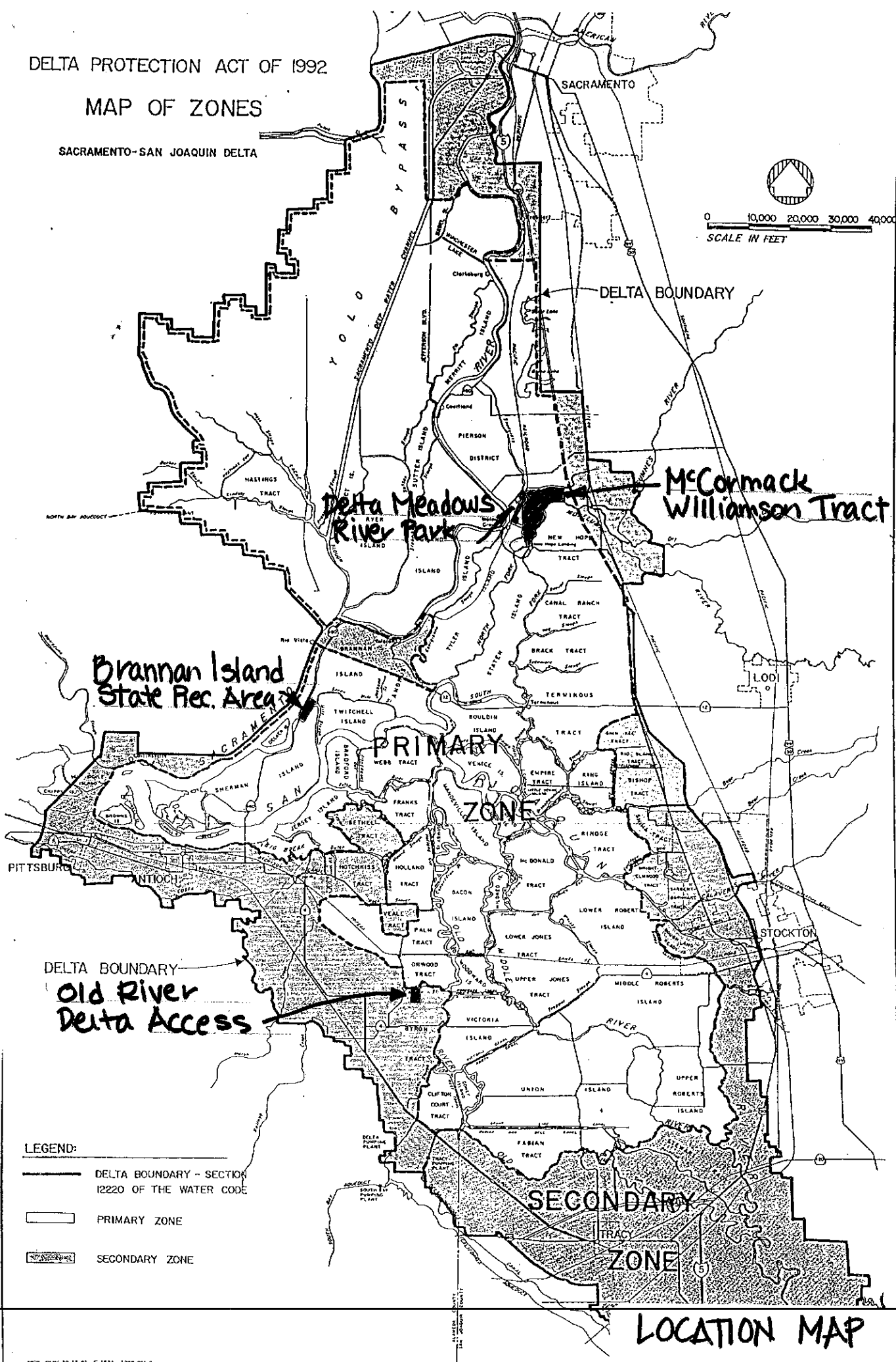
State Department of Parks and Recreation Grant

The Department has determined that approximately one million dollars will be spent on improvements to the two existing Delta properties: Brannan Island State Park and Delta Meadows River Park (east of Locke and north of the Delta Cross Channel). Both of these properties are in the Primary Zone of the Delta (see attached maps). The Parks Department is still developing a final list of projects which may include: upgrading campsites at Brannan Island State Recreation Area; windsurfer access improvements at Windy Cove including restrooms, parking, observation deck and landscaping; picnic and fishing improvements at Windy Cove; and possible acquisitions and minor improvements at Delta Meadows River Park.

DELTA PROTECTION ACT OF 1992

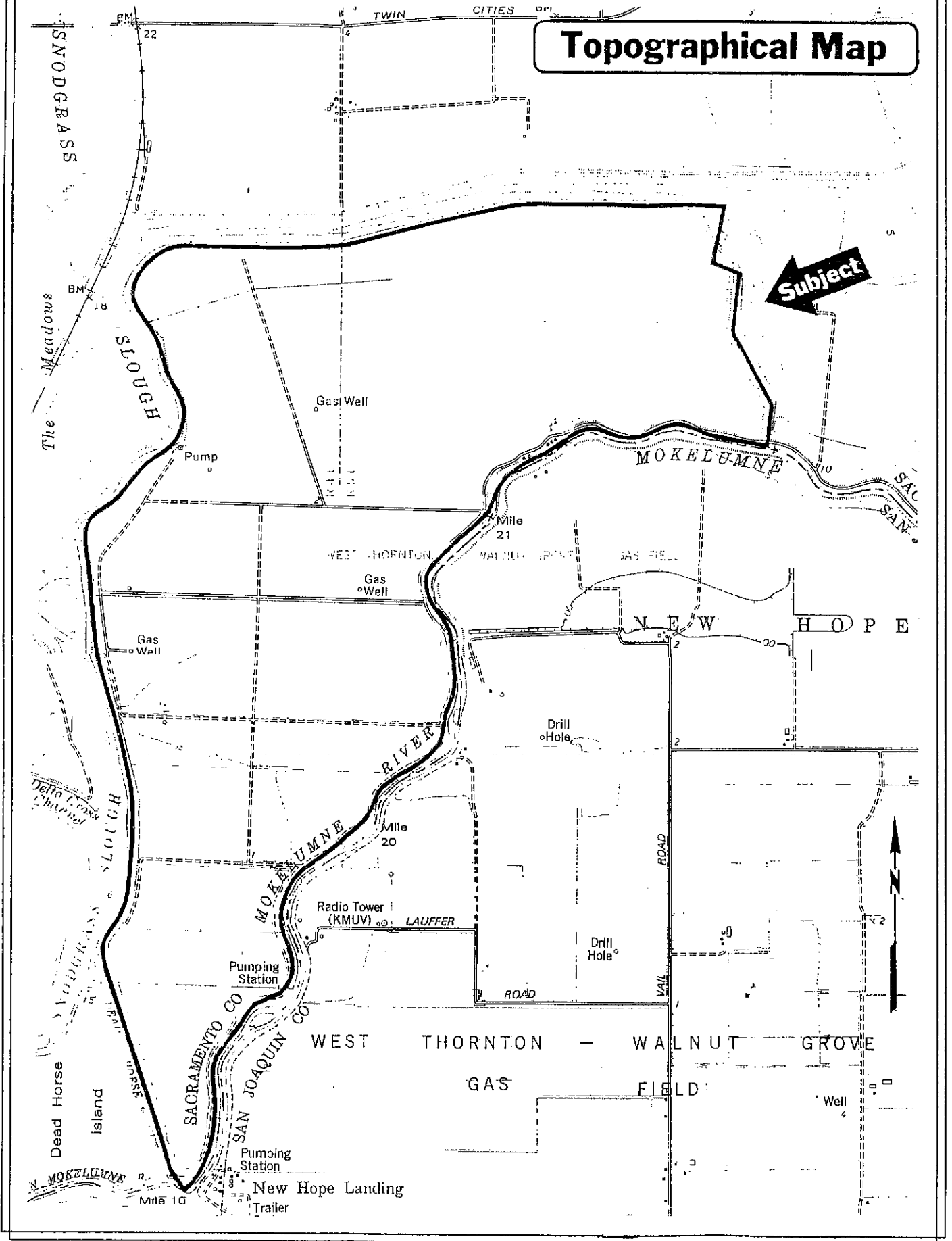
MAP OF ZONES

SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA

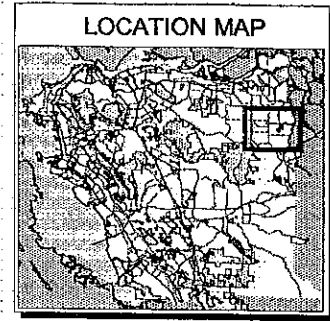
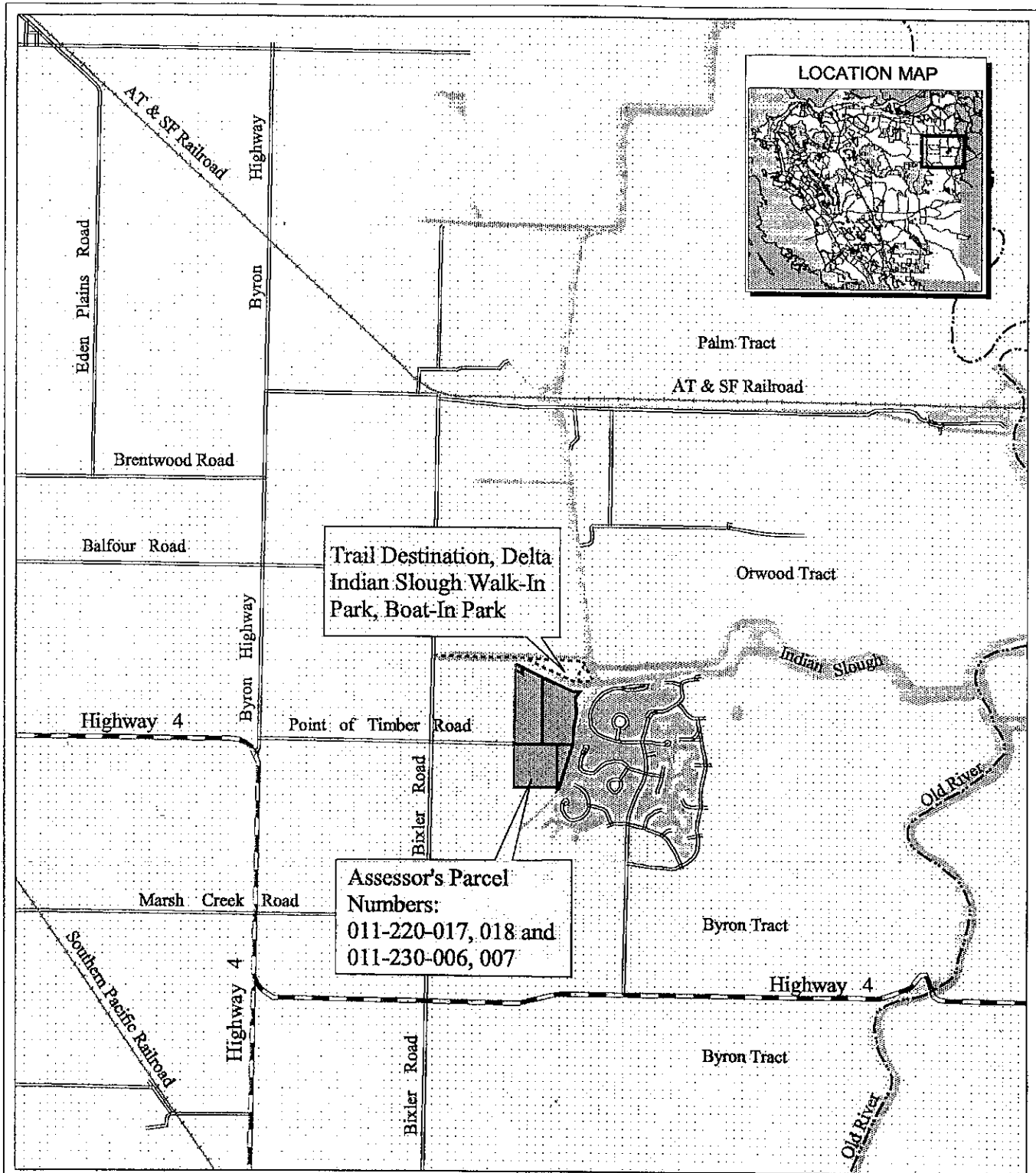



PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

Topographical Map



McCormack Williamson Tract



Delta Recreation Program
 Proposed Acquisition
 Pantages Property

EBRPD
 Advanced Planning
 8 December 1997



0 2000 4000 Feet

Old River
 Delta Access